(d) if so, the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to bottlenecks in the existing laws?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) and (b) Yes Sir, in the case to decided of Central Excise & Customs field formations, it nas been decided to enhance the budget provisions under office expenses to provide them better facilities. The improved facilities are likely to augment the recovery of taxes.

(c) and (d) Tax Laws are regularly updated taking into account the need to the hour, development in trade and industry and judicial pronouncements.

Garment Export Policy

1737. SHRI UTTAMSINGH PAWAR :

DR. ASIM BALA :

SHRI G. VENKATSWAMY :

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether their is any proposal under Government's consideration for overhauling the garment export policy in its operational aspects;

(b) if so, the details thereof and by when it is proposed to be overhauled; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government for development and technological upgrada-tion of textile industry to make it internationally competitive?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI R. L. JALAPPA): (a) and (b) At present, there is no proposal under Government's consideration for overhauling the garments export policy in its operational aspects.

(b) A proposal is under formulation to facilitate modernisation of the textile industry through technological upgradation. The intended objective is to improve production and productivity of the Indian textile industry to make it more competitive, including in the export market. Details of a Technology Upgradation Fund for textiles and jute industries are being worked out.

Dumping of Newsprint by Foreign Countries

1738. SHRI SUBRAHAMANYAM NELAVALA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have taken any final decision in regard to the complaints received from the India Newsprint Manufactures, Association;

(b) if so, whether the Government have also initiated investigation in December last year into the charges for dumping newsprint by certain countries like Russia, Canada and the US;

(c) if so, the outcome of the enquiry;

(d) whether the investigation is being instituted by his Ministry; and

(e) if so, the time by which a final action is likely to be taken against those held responsible?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE : (DR. BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH) : (a) to (e) The Designated Authority appointed under the Customs Tariff Act and the rules made thereunder initiated investigation on 20.12.96 for alleged dumping of newsprint by USA, Canada and Russia. The Designated Authority has notified the preliminary findings in the Officials Gazette on 11.6.97 recommending imposition of provisional anti-dumping duties on newsprint from the said three countries.

Under the anti-dumping investigations are required to be completed within one year from the date of Initiation, which can be further extended by six months. The final decision In the case of newsprint will be taken within the prescribed statutory time limits.

[Translation]

IDBI Loan to Private Jet Planes Company

1739. SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN TIWARI :

KUNWAR SARVARAJ SINGH :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a huge loan amounting to crores of rupees payable to the Industrial Development Bank of India is outstanding against a private company engaged in operation of jet planes;

(b) if so, the name of the private company and the amount of loan outstanding against it alongwith the date since when it has been outstanding;

(c) the basis on which the loan was advanced to this company;

(d) whether the interest is also proposed to be charged on this loan;

(e) if so, the total amount of interest as on date; and

(f) the time by which and the manner In which the Government propose to recover this amount?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a), (b), (d) and (e) The Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI) has reported that it had sanctioned and disbursed assistance of Rs. 3.45 crores to one private air operator, who had jets in the fleet of aircrafts. However, in accordance with the practices and usages customary amongst banks and in conformity with provisions of statutes governing public sector banks and

financial institutions as also the provisions of pubiic Financial Institutions (obligation as to Fidelity and Secrecy) Act, 1983, the details relating to individual constituents cannot be divulged.

(c) IDBI has reported that the loan was sanctioned to the private air operator after assessing the economic, commerical and financial viability of the project.

(f) IDBI is initiating recovery proceedings against the company.

[English]

Export of Tea

1740. PROF. JITENDRA NATH DAS : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the countries to which the Government is exporting tea;

(b) the quantity of tea exported during each of the last two years, year-wise country-wise; and

(c) the foreign exchange earned through this export?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (DR. BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH) : (a) Indian tea is exported to almost all importing countries of the world. Major importers of Indian tea are Russia and CIS countries, U.K., Germany, Poland, U.A.E., Iran, Arab republic of Egypt, Japan, Saudi Arabia etc.

(b) and (c) A statement of country wise export of tea from India is attached.

(Quantity : Million Kg.)
(Value : Rs. Crore)

	1995-96		1996-97	
Country	Qty.	Val.	Qty.	Val.
1	2	3	4	5
Russian Fed.	66.08	443.08	42.03	297.16
Kazakhistan	3.34	21.73	2.87	18.63
Ukrain	3.19	23.43	0.60	3.69
Azerbaijan	0.03	0.23	0.40	0.21
other CIS	3.11	21.84	8.07	55.34
Total CIS	75.85	510.31	53.61	375.03
U.K.	21.71	133.71	25.19	176.31
Ireland	2.52	16.94	3.19	22.26
Netherland	2.66	25.48	2.33	23.80
Germany	7.18	99.35	6.67	100.40
Poland	10.57	63.74	8.53	55.20
USA	3.54	31.25	5.05	59.42
Canada	0.42	2.69	0.72	4.44
UAE	16.84	137.35	21.54	152.69
Iran	3.29	26.91	4.29	27.84
S.Arabia	0.99	9.93	3.19	31.96
Jordan	0.12	0.77	0.73	3.40
A.R.E.	6.54	33.46	6.68	35.69
Morrocco	–	–	0.05	0.32
Tunisia	–	–	0.67	3.15
Afghanistan	0.85	6.12	0.75	6.04
Hongkong	0.08	0.77	2.63	14.97
Singapore	0.59	3.44	0.66	4.20
Nepal	0.35	2.00	0.52	2.56
Sri Lanka	0.51	2.44	2.57	12.21
Turkey	0.47	3.74	0.92	7.37
Japan	2.10	28.80	2.44	38.14
Pakistan	0.25	0.97	0.22	0.66
Liberia	1.65	9.51	2.98	16.63
South Afrecia	0.29	1.35	1.28	11.46
Australia	0.65	4.52	1.06	6.58
Other Ctry.	6.99	45.53	17.04	95.65
Total	163.65	1191.19	132.26	1005.27
USMn$		(356.10)	(347.01)	

Funds for Coal Sector

1741. SHRI RANJIB BISWAL : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether allocation of fund has been enhanced in Ninth Plan for the development of different major coal fields;

(b) if so, to what extent increase has been made than the Eighth Plan;

(c) the funds earmarked for Ninth Plan and released so far for the development of coal resources in Orissa; and